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SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN

CROSSROADS

DAVID
LAND
LEISTEN
D'ARMATA

LAND fgd

MARVEL

SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN

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LAND
fgd

HEY... YOU HEAR THE PRESIDENT'S COMING TO TOWN TOMORROW? WHOLE CEREMONY DOWN AT CITY HALL.

COULDN'T GIVE A DAMN, FRED. IN POINT OF FACT, BY TOMORROW I'LL BE GONE.

ON TAP

GONE? WHERE?

BACK TO VEGAS. MAYBE RENO. ANYPLACE BUT HERE.

NEW YORK MAY HAVE THE BEST TARGETS, BUT IT'S NOWHERE FOR GUYS LIKE ME TO OPERATE. ALL THE FREAKING SUPER HEROES...

I IMAGINE THAT CAN BE *MOST* INCONVENIENT.

YOU CAN SAY THAT A--

--gain...

Hi.

I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE A RATHER POTENT MAGICIAN.

I'm Ge... *uh*...Moondark. The magnificent Moondark.

I HAVE A TASK FOR YOU, MAGNIFICENT ONE. WILL YOU UNDERTAKE IT?

For you?

ANYTHING.

WHERE THE HELL IS HE?

HE'S *THE PRESIDENT*, JONAH. IT PROBABLY TAKES HIM TIME TO GET PLACES.

YOU EVER MEET A PRESIDENT, ROBBIE?

I STARTED OUT COVERING THE WHITE HOUSE. MET NIXON ONCE.

A MISUNDERSTOOD GENIUS.

UH...SURE, I'VE *HEARD* THAT.

AH, HERE HE IS.

IS MY NECKTIE STRAIGHT?

NECKTIE IS FINE. YOUR MUSTACHE, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS CROOKED...

IT'S NOT CROOKED.

USA

GREETINGS, ALL.

AH. MR. JAMESON.

I'M... *FLATTERED* THAT YOU'D RECOGNIZE ME, SIR.

THIS IS MY CITY EDITOR, JOSEPH ROBERTSON. EVERYONE CALLS HIM "*ROBBIE.*"

PLEASURE TO MEET YOU, ROBBIE.

AND YOU TOO, JONAH.

WHAT TH--?!

TAKE IT!

WHAT'S HAPPENING?! WHAT IS THIS?!

YOU?! YOU SON OF A--!

AH-AH, JONAH. *LANGUAGE.*

YOU ***WEBBED MENACE!*** YOU'VE BLOWN IT THIS TIME!

YOU'RE ATTACKING THE PRESIDENT OF THE DAMNED UNITED STATES IN FRONT OF HUNDREDS OF WITNESSES AND... *OH* YEAH...

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE WHO'LL SEE THIS ON THE NEWS!

YOU'RE ***FINALLY THROUGH***, WEB-HEAD! ***FINISHED!***

AND LET EVERYBODY KNOW THAT ***J. JONAH JAMESON*** WAS HERE WHEN IT HAPPENED!

YEAH, I'M SURE THAT'S ALL THEY'LL TALK ABOUT.

I'M WEBBING THE PRESIDENT, BUT ALL ANYONE WILL BE SAYING IS, *"HEY, DID YOU SEE JONAH'S MUSTACHE IS CROOKED?"*

IT'S NOT CROOKED!

BACK AWAY FROM HIM, SPIDER-MAN!
BACK AWAY FROM WHO?
WHOM.
SORRY, "WHOM." THANKS.
THE PRESIDENT, YOU IDIOT!
YOU MEAN THIS GUY?
OF COURSE THAT--
--GUY...?
HEY, DMITRI. OH, SORRY...
CHAMELEON.
HOW'S YOUR DAY GOING?

I...I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHY...?

HE WAS GOING TO *POISON* YOU, JONAH. POISON EVERYONE HE MET.

TOXIC RING ON HIS FINGER. *RIGHT*, CHAMELEON?

HOW DID YOU KNOW I WAS IMPERSONATING HIM?

A FRIEND TOLD ME. NOW YOUR TURN: WHERE'S THE PRESIDENT? IS HE ALIVE?

YES, HE IS. LET ME GO, THOUGH, OR HE DIES.

HOW ABOUT YOU TELL ME WHERE HE IS, OR *YOU* DIE?

EXCUSE ME? IS THAT SUPPOSED TO SCARE ME, SPIDER-MAN?

WHO'S GOING TO KILL ME? YOU?

YOU'RE NOT ONE FOR DEATHLY THREATS.

NOPE. BUT *MY FRIEND*, ON THE OTHER HAND...

I SEE. YOUR *FRIEND*. AND HOW'S HE GOING TO DO THAT?

SHOOT YOU.

IMPOSSIBLE. THE SECRET SERVICE CLEARED THIS ENTIRE AREA.

LOOK DOWN.

LOOK DOWN AT--

--what?

MAYBE YOU'VE HEARD OF MY FRIEND: HIS NAME'S *FRANK.*

BUT HE'S GOT ANOTHER NAME, JUST LIKE YOU. GOES BY *"THE PUNISHER."*

NOW: HE WON'T KILL YOU IMMEDIATELY. PROBABLY SHOOT OUT A KIDNEY FIRST. THEN YOUR ARMS AND LEGS. AFTER THAT, HE'LL GET CREATIVE.

OR YOU COULD--

HE'S AT 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH. SEVENTH FLOOR. A VACANT OFFICE, END OF THE HALL.

HE'S ALIVE. MY BOSSES WERE GOING TO RANSOM HIM.

GUYS?

387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, SEVENTH FLOOR! ALL UNITS CONVERGE!

I'LL MEET YOUR GUYS THERE!

JONAH, A PLEASURE SAVING YOUR LIFE, AS ALWAYS!

THEY WERE IN IT TOGETHER.

DAILY BU

OH, COME ON, JONAH! WHAT'S IN IT FOR THE CHAMELEON, CONSIDERING HE'S IN JAIL NOW?!

OBVIOUSLY, ROBBIE, THE WALL-CRAWLER *DOUBLE-CROSSED* HIM!

AND MY MUSTACHE LOOKS FINE.

JONAH. PETER PARKER IS HERE.

THANK GOD.

GOT PICTURES FROM THE CITY HALL DUSTUP.

EVEN BETTER.

YOU'RE IN A COUPLE OF THE SHOTS, JONAH.

GOOD. LET THE PEOPLE KNOW THE *BUGLE* IS *ALWAYS* ON THE SCENE.

PARKER? WHAT'S WRONG?

UH... NOTHING.

JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING.

SEND ME A CHECK.

THAT WAS FAST.

WELL, WHEN YOU SEE YOUR GIRLFRIEND PERCHED OUTSIDE A WINDOW, WAVING, YOU TEND TO MOVE.

PETER, COULD YOU, *UH...*

YOU KNOW.

SUIT UP?

YES, THANKS.

YOU'VE REALLY GOT TO GET USED TO MY ACTUAL FACE, FELICIA.

GIMME A BREAK, I'M TRYING, OKAY? SO...I ASSUMED IT WORKED? ME SHINING THAT LASER POINTER ON THE CHAMELEON...?

LIKE A ***CHARM***. HE BOUGHT THE WHOLE STORY. GREAT JOB.

GOOD. AND I'VE GOT ANOTHER TIP FOR YOU. A HEADS-UP ON A ROBBERY.

A HEADS-UP? FROM WHERE?

WHEN YOU'RE HANGING OUT IN A BAR THAT'S A POPULAR CRIMINAL HANGOUT, YOU KEEP YOUR EARS OPEN. AND I OVERHEARD A FASCINATING CONVERSATION.

THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM HAS A NEW EXHIBIT OF VIKING ARTIFACTS. SOMEONE'S GOING TO HIT IT AT 9 PM THIS EVENING.

WOW. THAT'S EXACT.

YEAH.

MAYBE A LITTLE TOO EXACT.

I WAS THINKING THE SAME THING.

"SO LET'S BE READY FOR ANYTHING."

VIKING EXHIBIT

RONNIE. CHECKING IN.

ALL'S QUIET. HEY, DID YOU SEE THE GAME THIS AFTERNOON?

WHICH ONE?

THE--

THE HELL--?!

RONNIE? WHAT'S WRONG?

GO PLAY IN TRAFFIC.

WHEEEEEEEE!!!

NOW, WHERE IS IT? WHEEERE IS IT?

AHHHH...

THERE WE ARE. THE GLOW STONE.

WHAT AN *IMAGINATIVE* NAME.

WELL, THEY CAN'T ALL BE WINNERS.

EH?

SPIDER-MAN!!!

I *KNEW* YOU COULDN'T RESIST TAKING ME DOWN AGAIN!

FWAAZAAAKKK

BLAM

IT WORKED! I DID IT!

BWAHAHAHAH

NICE JOB.

THANK Y--

EH?

WAAAAAM

KRAAABASH

GOTTA HAND IT TO YOU-- YOU PULVERIZED THE CRAP OUT OF THAT WEB DUMMY.

YOU'D'VE TOTALLY HAD ME IF I WERE, Y'KNOW, *INCREDIBLY* STUPID.

AND NOW YOU THINK THAT--EVEN THOUGH I SEE YOU PLAINLY--YOU'RE INVULNERABLE?

GOOD POINT.

AND IF YOU CAN'T SEE ME?

THWIIIP

NICE MOVE.

FWAZAAAAAKK

FWAZAAAA

YEAH. THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT.

FWAZAAAK

FWAAAAAAAAAAK

YOU HAD PEOPLE LEAK YOUR BEING HERE TO THE BLACK CAT, ***KNOWING*** SHE'D TELL ME. YES?

KILLING YOU WHILE PULLING A JOB. AN ELEGANT TWOFER.

YEAH, WELL, THAT DIDN'T EXACTLY WORK OUT FOR YOU.

BOYS! C'MON IN!

"BOYS"?

UH-HUH.

IT'S AMAZING HOW COOPERATIVE THE NYPD CAN BE WHEN YOU SAVE THE PRESIDENT AND THEY FEEL THEY OWE YOU ONE.

AND WITH YOUR EYES COVERED, I FIGURE YOU'RE HARMLESS ENOUGH.

YOU RECKON WITHOUT MY MIND-POWERS. I DON'T REQUIRE VISION FOR THAT. JUST WEAK MINDS TO MANIPULATE.

YOURS, I ASSUME, WOULD BE TOO STRONG.

THESE POLICE OFFICERS WITH WHOM YOU PROVIDED ME, ON THE OTHER HAND...

UH-OH.

THEY WILL SUIT ME JUST FINE.

GENTLEMEN, MAKE SURE NOT TO HIT ME.

OTHERWISE, *FEEL FREE TO ATTACK.*

OKAY, BOYS, LET'S NOT DO ANYTHING WE'LL REGRET...

OH. KNOW WHAT ELSE I DON'T REQUIRE EYESIGHT FOR? MY TRANSPORT SPELL.

YOUR WHAT--?

OH, WELL, THAT'S JUST ***FANTASTIC.***

THAT'S THE LAST TIME I PLAN *AHEAD* FOR THIS KIND OF THING.

FROM NOW ON I JUST STICK WITH MY SPIDER-SENSE AND DO EVERYTHING ON THE FLY.

BLAM

NOW... BACK TO WORK.

THERE WE ARE.

ARRRHHH!

GOD, THAT WAS LIKE RIPPING OFF A HUNDRED BAND-AIDS AT ONCE.

THOSE POLICE OFFICERS WON'T DISTRACT SPIDER-MAN FOR LONG. SO I'D BEST TAKE CARE OF BUSINESS AND--

EH?

WUUUUMFFFF

I DON'T LIKE BEING *USED*, JERK FACE.

YOU SET ME UP IN ORDER TO TAKE DOWN SPIDER. CAN'T SAY I APPRECIATE THAT.

AND I'M GONNA TAKE IT OUT OF YOUR HIDE!

SEE, THIS IS JUST ONE OF THOSE MOMENTS WHEN I LOVE BEING AN *"EVIL"* MAGICIAN.

I GET TO LAUNCH COUNTERATTACKS *LACED WITH IRONY.*

SIC 'EM!!!

YOU SAY *"SIC 'EM"* TO A *DOG*, YOU MORON!

EVERYONE'S A CRITIC.

ZWAROWWW

THAT WAS EASY ENOUGH.

BLAROOOM

AAAAAALL RIGHT. SHE DIDN'T WARN ME OF THAT.

GUYS! CAN WE STOP WITH THE SHOOTING, PLEASE?!

LUCKILY THERE ARE NO CIVILIANS HERE, BUT I'VE GOTTA END THIS NOW!

BLAAM BLAAM BLAAAM

FINE! *BE* THAT WAY!

CRAAAAP!

SEE, IF ONLY MOONDARK HAD BEEN TRYING TO STEAL SOMETHING FROM THE MOMA, WE WOULDN'T BE *IN* THIS SITUATION.

THIS IS A *TEST*, ISN'T IT? A TEST OF MY *WORTHINESS*.

I BET SHE THINKS I *CAN'T* DO IT. MAYBE THIS WAS ALL A JOKE TO HER.

PROVE THAT THE FORMER STAGE MAGICIAN CAN'T MOVE WITH THE BIG BOYS.

I'LL SHOW HER. I'LL SHOW *ALL OF THEM!*

YOU LITTLE PIECE OF ROCK. YOU WANT TO DANCE?

FINE!

"LET'S DANCE!"

OOOOOF!

SCAT!!!

HUH?

THAT WORKED?

FELICIA! YOU OKAY?

I WAS BEING CHASED BY SOME KINDA...I DUNNO... *THUNDER CAT* THAT MOONDARK CREATED.

AND THEN I JUST MADE IT DISAPPEAR BY TELLING IT TO GO.

MAYBE.

OR MAYBE HE'S USING SO MUCH POWER FOR *SOMETHING ELSE* THAT HE HAD TO CONCENTRATE IT ALL.

WHAT'S HE USING IT ON? DID *DOCTOR STRANGE* SHOW UP TO HELP?

I SAY WE FIND OUT...

"...BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE."

EXCELLENT! JUST WHO I WANTED TO SEE!

FACE ME NOW! FACE THE UNFETTERED POWER OF--

MOONDARK!!!

?

MOONDARK!!!

COULD WE, Y'KNOW, MOVE THIS ALONG?

I GOT MOVIE TICKETS.

I...I DON'T UNDERSTAND! THIS IS A *NORN POWER STONE!*

IT INCREASES WHATEVER POWER YOU ALREADY HAVE! IT'S WHY I WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE HERE!

SO I COULD DESTROY YOU UTTERLY! MAKE THE WORLD TREMBLE AT THE MERE *MENTION* OF MY NAME!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I'M MAKING A DISTRACTION.

DISTRACTION? FROM WHAT?

ZZZZRRRRRRR

DUMBASS.

WOW. WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

A CAR HIT ME. WELL, *GRAZED* ME. SENT ME FLYING, SNAPPED ME OUT OF HIS MIND CONTROL.

WELL, YOU SURE TOOK CARE OF HIM. *NICE JOB.*

YOU SHOULD REALLY GET TO A HOSPITAL, JUST IN CASE.

A BAR FIRST.

I GUESS I SHOULDN'T KNOCK IT, BUT I WONDER WHY THIS THING DIDN'T WORK FOR HIM.

BECAUSE IT REQUIRES THE TOUCH OF A GODLY BEING TO ACTIVATE IT. A BEING SUCH AS...

KARNILLA, the NORN QUEEN.

THE STONE WAS SURROUNDED BY A CHARM THAT PREVENTED MY KIND FROM HANDLING IT AND SHIELDED IT FROM MAGIC USERS.

BUT MOONDARK ATTENDED TO THAT FOR ME. WERE HE CONSCIOUS, I WOULD THANK HIM.

NOW THEN...

...ON TO BUSINESS.

AHHHH...I CAN FEEL THE POWER...

GOTTA MOVE QUICKLY. IF SHE'S REALLY SOME SORT OF GODDESS, SHE WON'T EXPECT A DIRECT ATTACK.

YOU DARE?!

UH-OH.

SPIDER!!!

LOOK OUT!

I'M NOT EVEN GOING TO BOTHER BATTLING YOU.

FAREWELLL, YOU PATHETIC MORT--

WHAT?! NO!!!

THWIP

NOOOO!!!

OOOOOOFFF!!!

WHERE AM I?

RRRRRRRRRR...

OH, YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING ME.

RAAAAAAAAWR!

UH...

HI, HULK.

HOW'S IT GOING?

LAND
100

BANG BANG BANG

DOCTOR STRAAAAANGE!!!

WHAT IN THE WORLD--?

THERE WAS THIS STONE, IT WAS CALLED A ***NUN*** STONE OR SOMETHING, AND THIS GUY, ***MOONDARK,*** WANTED TO STEAL IT FROM THE NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM BUT IT DIDN'T WORK AND SPIDER AND I STOPPED HIM AND WE KNOCKED HIM OUT AND THEN THIS WOMAN APPEARED, ***CARMELLA***, I THINK, AND SHE WANTED IT AND SPIDER HAD IT AND SHE ***DISAPPEARED*** HIM BUT HE GRABBED THE STONE AND NOW HE'S GONE AND YOU GOTTA GET HIM BACK.

UHM...

OKAY.

WHO, *UH*...WHO'S THAT?

MOONDARK. WEREN'T YOU ***LISTENING?*** LOCK HIM UP SOMEWHERE AND THEN FORGET HIM.

WE NEED TO FIND SPIDER, WHEREVER HE IS!

THE CROSSROADS DIMENSION.

RAAARGHHH!

GEEZ LOUISE, HULK! CALM *DOWN!*

I DON'T WANNA BE HERE ANY MORE THAN *YOU* DO!

LAST TIME I HEARD ANYTHING FROM THE HULK, HE'D GONE COMPLETELY BERSERK AND WAS TRASHING MIDTOWN. I BARELY MANAGED TO SAVE SOME PEOPLE FROM HIM.

DOCTOR STRANGE SENT HIM OFF INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION, WHERE HE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO HURT ANYONE EVER AGAIN.*

YEAH. SO MUCH FOR *THAT* PLAN.

THUD

*IN THE NOW CLASSIC *INCREDIBLE HULK #300!* --DK

WHERE IN THE HECK AM I, ANYWAY?!

IT DOES NOT KNOW IT IS AT THE CROSSROADS OF REALITY.

CRIPES! WHAT THE--?!

INDEED, THERE IS *MUCH* IT DOES NOT KNOW.

CERTAINLY NOT THE *POWER* IT HOLDS.

POWER? YOU MEAN THIS--

--thing...?

It's...so... beautiful...

THWAK

NO! NOOO!!!

GOTTA GET IT BACK!

THWIP

DID IT!

NOW JUST GOTTA YANK IT BACK--

OOOOFF!

NICE TARGETING--

UHHH--

RAAAHHKK

RAAARRRR

SHUT...

...UP!

I CAN BARELY HEAR MYSELF THINK!

BA-KOOOM

THIS IS AMAZING... NEVER FELT SO STRONG... LIKE...

...LIKE NOTHING CAN BEAT ME EVER AGAIN.

OH. LOOK WHO'S BACK.

COME ON, HULKIE. LET'S SEE WHATCHA GOT.

THAT IT?

WHAT'S THE MATTER? GETTING FRUSTRATED?

FINE. TAKE A FREE SHOT.

KRAAAK!!

OW.

MY TURN.

BAKOOM!!

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM.
MOMENTS LATER...

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHY DID WE COME BACK HERE, TO THE MUSEUM?

CAN'T YOU JUST, Y'KNOW, "FWOOOF" YOUR HANDS AND SEE WHERE HE IS?

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MANY DIMENSIONS THERE ARE IN TOTAL?

TWO.

NO.

THREE.

NO.

FO--

AN *INFINITE* NUMBER.

SO... A LOT.

YES.

THAT'S ***SPIDER!*** I'D RECOGNIZE HIM ANYWHERE!

I'M RE-CREATING WHAT HAPPENED FROM THE SURROUNDING LEY LINES.

WHAT LINES?

THEY'RE INVISIBLE BANDS OF ENERGY THAT JOIN THE WORLD TOGETHER.

OH. OKAY, 'CAUSE YOU SAID "*LEY*" AND MY MIND JUST WENT SOMEWHERE ELSE ENTIRELY.

AND THERE'S THE PORTAL. NOW ALL I HAVE TO DO IS TRACE IT AND--

STAY OUT OF THIS, MORTAL! DO NOT INTERFERE IN THE AFFAIRS OF KARNILLA, THE NORN QUEEN...

...OR I SWEAR BY ALL THAT'S HOLY, IT WILL NOT END WELL FOR YOU!

"CARMELLA"?
THE "NUN" STONE?
THERE WAS A LOT GOING ON AND IT WAS LOUD. SO I MISHEARD. SAH-REE.

SO, WHO IS THIS... "KARNILLA"?
SHE RULES AN ASGARDIAN PROVINCE CALLED NORNHEIM. TRUST ME--YOU WOULDN'T LIKE IT.
AND SHE'S A POWERFUL SORCERESS.
MORE POWERFUL THAN YOU?
I'M NOT SURE. BUT IF SHE'S INTERESTED IN THIS...
...SAVING SPIDER-MAN JUST GOT MUCH HARDER.

ELSEWHERE...

EH?

RAAARRRRR

LOOK OUT FOR THE--

NEVER MIND.

ARRGGGGHHH!!!

SON OF A--!!!

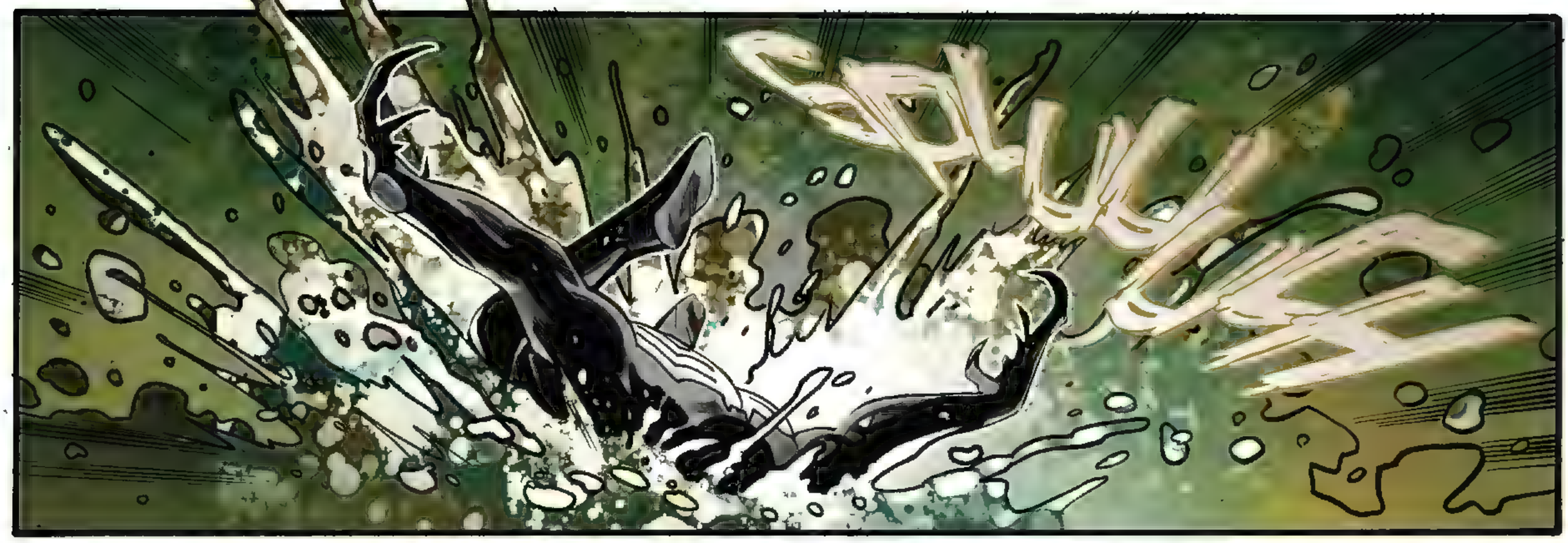
NAAAM

SO IMPACTS ARE NO PROBLEM... BUT POINTY STUFF, THAT STILL HURTS LIKE--

WHAAAM

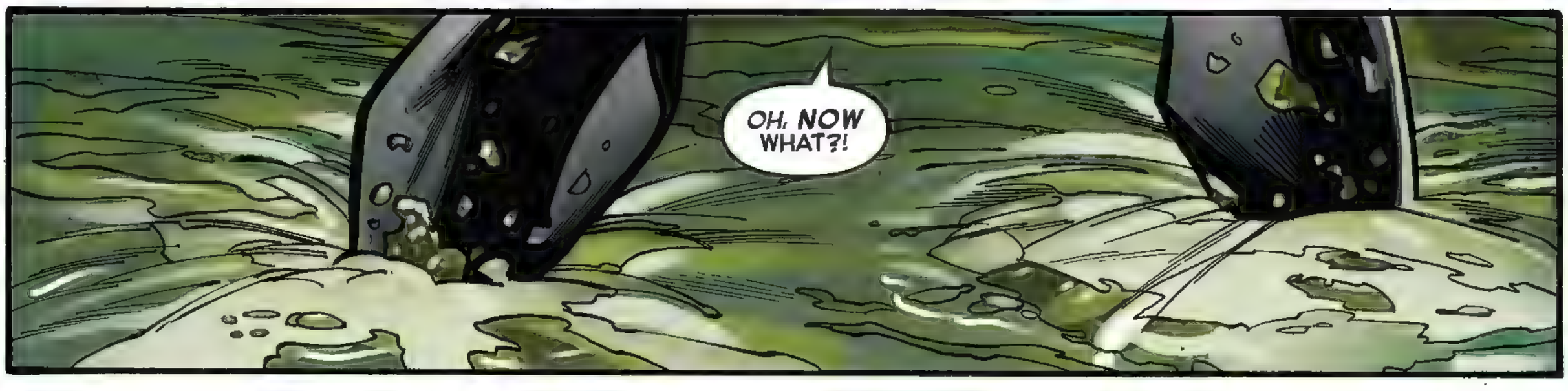
KAHHH

AHHR



UCHHHH.
CAN'T SEE A THING. HOLD ON.
SHOP
THERE! GOT IT.
WHAAAAAT... THE HECK AM I DOING HERE?
WHERE IS HERE?

I WAS...I WAS FIGHTING THE HULK... AND...


OH, NOW WHAT?!

THE STONE IS GROWING IN POWER. BUT IT SEEKS ANOTHER ALLY.

SOMEONE WHO IS *STRONGER.*

SOMEONE WHOSE POTENTIAL IS *UNLIMITED.*

KA-AWOOF-K

URFFFF?

UNFFFFF!!!

SEE? IT BEGINS. IT WILL APPEAL TO HIS *GREATEST STRENGTHS*, UNLEASH HIS...

EH?

ALL RIGHT...*THIS* IS ODD.

UH...

HELLO.

I'LL JUST, *AH*...BE ON MY WAY, IF THAT'S ALL RIGHT WITH--

THWAK

OOOOOFFF!!!

WHAT IS THIS STUFF?! IT'S LIKE A COMBINATION OF MUD *AND* QUICKSAND!

GIVES *MUD-THING* A RUN FOR IT'S MONEY...

*NEVER HEARD OF *MUD-THING*? CHECK OUT *ASM* #217-218 FOR THE DEETS! --DK

THWIP

PERFECT.

NOW WE JUST HOPE THE BRANCH DOESN'T--

SNAP

NOTHING TO...TO PUSH AGAINST...

...NOTHING TO...

MY GOD...IS THIS IT? AFTER YEARS OF DOC OCK, THE GOBLIN, ELECTRO...

...*THIS* IS HOW I DIE? IN SOME MUDHOLE IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE?

CAT'LL NEVER KNOW... AND ***MJ***...AND POOR AUNT MAY...

SO MUCH I WANTED TO DO... I...

I don't wanna go.

YOU TALK A LOT.

AND YOU ARE DRESSED VERY ODDLY.

HUH?

WHO ARE YOU?!

THIS IS *DEVIL.* I AM CALLED *MOON BOY.*

VALLEY OF THE FLAME

THIS... THIS *T. REX* AND YOU ARE... *FRIENDS?*

THERE ARE NO WORDS TO DESCRIBE MY RELATIONSHIP WITH DEVIL.

YEAH, THAT'S NOT TOO WEIRD AT ALL.

THANKS FOR SAVING ME, I GUESS.

YOU SEEMED IN NEED OF RESCUE.

THERE WAS A GUY WITH ME...

WELL, NOT A *GUY*, EXACTLY. A *BIG GREEN MONSTER.*

DID YOU SEE WHERE HE WENT?

I SAW NO MONSTER. JUST A NORMAL MAN. VERY THIN.

OH. OKAY, THAT COULD BE HIM TOO.

THE KILLER FOLK HAVE HIM.

"*KILLER FOLK*"? BOY, THERE'S NOT A LOT OF SUBTLETY TO THE NAMES AROUND HERE.

LET ME GUESS. THEY'LL WANT TO KILL HIM.

"WELL, THEY *ARE* THE KILLER FOLK, SO YES.

"BUT THEY LIKELY WON'T DO IT THEMSELVES.

"THEY WILL PROBABLY SACRIFICE HIM TO *LONG LEGS.*"

LONG LEGS! WE PRESENT YOU THIS FEAST! WE REGRET THAT IT IS *UNDERFED...*

BUT HOPE THAT IT WILL SATISFY YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN!

KKCCCCCHHHHH

BRUCE...BRUCE, CAN YOU HEAR ME?

BRUCE...YOU'RE GOING TO DIE.

THIS...THING...IS GOING TO *DEVOUR* YOU. THIS MAGIC STONE, IT...

IT INCREASES YOUR INNER STRENGTH. BUT IT BELIEVES THAT *YOU* ARE THE SOURCE OF THAT STRENGTH. IT'S WRONG. ***I AM.***

YOU NEED TO LET ME OUT NOW. THE ***TRUE*** SOURCE OF YOUR POWER.

I'VE BEEN IN HERE ***THE WHOLE TIME.*** AND NOW THIS STONE CAN FINALLY GIVE ME FORM.

LET ME ***OUT***, BRUCE. IT'S LONG PAST TIME.

LET...

ME...

OUT...

WHAT IS...

...THAT?!

HELLO.

MY NAME IS *BRIAN.*

AND I'M GOING TO DESTROY

YOU ALL.

BY ALL MEANS, CREATURE... ATTACK.

DO WHATEVER YOU THINK IS BEST.

YOU'D HAVE EASILY TAKEN OUT BRUCE. BUT HE'S GONE.

NOW YOU HAVE TO DEAL WITH *ME*.

AND I PROMISE YOU: IT WON'T GO WELL FOR YOU.

SKREEEE

THIS "LONG LEGS" YOU SAID THEY'RE GOING TO SACRIFICE HIM TO...WHAT IS IT EXACTLY?

IT IS SIMILAR TO THE IMAGE ON YOUR CHEST.

YOU MEAN A *SPIDER*? A *GIANT SPIDER*?

YES.

THAT'S JUST GREAT.

HOW IS IT GREAT?

IT'S NOT, ACTUALLY.

WHY DID YOU SAY IT WAS?

I WAS BEING *SARCASTIC*.

WHAT IS "*SARCASTIC*"?

IT MEANS SAYING THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT YOU INTEND.

WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT?

I...I DON'T KNOW. YOU JUST *DO* SOMETIMES.

HOW IS THE OTHER PERSON SUPPOSED TO KNOW?

FROM YOUR TONE.

I THINK I WILL JUST SAY WHAT I MEAN.

WAS THAT SARCASTIC?

THE CAVE IS JUST AHEAD.

YEAH, GOOD IDEA THERE.

SLIGHTLY.

WELL WELL...

SO YOU'RE A PROUD FATHER.

BY ALL MEANS, DAD, BRING THEM ON.

I LOVE KIDS. ASK MY OWN SON.

KILLER-FOLK! DO NOT THINK TO STAND AGAINST US!

FINE!

WE WON'T!

MY WORLD STARTED MAKING CONSIDERABLY LESS SENSE SINCE I RAN INTO YOU.

BELIEVE ME, THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD AGREE WITH YOU.

I HEAR A BATTLE GOING ON IN THERE...

BRUCE PROBABLY TRANSFORMED BACK INTO THE--

WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?!

NORNHEIM.

AH. THERE IT IS.

I SEE THE STONE HAS EMPOWERED THE ONE THEY CALL *HULK*. IT TENDS TO DO THAT.

SKULD! URD! VERDANDI!

YOU HAVE SUMMONED THE NORNS, OUR QUEEN.

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE OF US?

YOU CAN STILL CONJURE MINIONS, YES?

OF COURSE.

I REQUIRE SOME TO GO *THERE*...

AND RETRIEVE THAT STONE FOR ME.

AS THE QUEEN COMMANDS...

SO SHALL IT BE DONE.

WAIT... WHAT IS THIS...?

SOMEONE ELSE IS WATCHING AS WELL!

WHO?

I ENCOUNTERED A MORTAL MAGICIAN A BIT EARLIER...

IT MIGHT BE HIM.

A MORTAL? CERTAINLY A MORTAL PRESENTS NO THREAT TO YOU, MISTRESS.

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT...

SOME OF THEM CAN PROVE TO BE...

PROBLEMATIC.

THAT WAS CLOSE.

KARNILLA ALMOST SPOTTED ME SPYING ON HER.

WHAT IF SHE HAD?

NOTHING GOOD, I CAN ASSURE YOU OF THAT.

YOU DON'T HAPPEN TO HAVE AN OBJECT OF SPIDER-MAN'S ON YOU, DO YOU?

HOW ABOUT THIS?

YOU CARRY HIS MASK WITH YOU?

YEAH. WHY? IS THAT WEIRD?

IT'S NOT FOR ME TO SAY.

BUT YOU THINK IT'S WEIRD.

MY OPINION ISN'T RELEVANT TO--

BUT YOU THINK IT'S--

IT'S A *LITTLE* WEIRD.

...

WHO ASKED YOU?

I HAVE NEED OF SOMETHING ELSE IF YOU COULD ACQUIRE IT FOR ME.

SURE. WHAT?

A FRAGMENT OF A ***NORN STONE***. IT WILL ENHANCE THE POTENCY OF ANY SPELL INVOLVING NORNHEIM.

LET ME GUESS--IT'S IN THE SECURITY WING OF A MUSEUM?

OR HIDDEN IN AN UNDERGROUND ROOM SURROUNDED BY LASER BEAMS?!

WHAT'S THIS?

THE ADDRESS OF THE STORE WHERE IT IS. IT'S A KEEPSAKE OF THE OWNER'S.

AND I HAVE TO ***STEAL*** IT?

TELL HIM IT'S FOR ME. HE'LL ***LEND*** IT TO YOU.

YOU'RE SENDING ME ON AN ERRAND?

YES.

TO PICK UP A FREAKING ROCK?

THAT'S CORRECT.

THIS IS TO GET ME OUT OF THE HOUSE, ISN'T IT?

YES. PLUS I DO NEED THE STONE.

SHEESH.

Magicians.

SPIDER-MAN! I REMEMBER YOU!

YOU'VE FOUGHT ME ANY NUMBER OF TIMES.

YEAH, *UH*, PRETTY SURE I NEVER FOUGHT YOU.

SKREEEE

EXCUSE ME A MOMENT.

THERE. THAT'S DISPOSED OF.

I just threw up a little in my mask.

YOU *KNOW* THIS CREATURE?

NEVER SEEN HIM BEFORE IN MY LIFE... BUT...

HE'S WEARING THE STONE...

HULK?

Bruce...?

AHHH, THE AIR IS SO FRESH. IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE ABLE TO BREATHE IT.

IT'S SO CLEAN HERE, ISN'T IT?

IT WOULD BE A SHAME TO MESS IT UP...

WITH YOUR BLOOD.

ONE CHANCE TO LEAVE, SPIDER-MAN. I'M FEELING GENEROUS.

BRUCE... I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT'S GOING ON, BUT I *DO* KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE SOMEWHERE...

YOU NEED TO TAKE CHARGE. TAKE COMMAND.

YOU ARE VERY WRONG, SPIDER-MAN, AS I WILL NOW DEMONSTRATE.

TAKE HIM, DEVIL!

OH, YOU MUST BE JOKING.

FIGHTING A T. REX. THERE'S A STORY IN HERE SOMEWHERE.

I SHOULD GIVE CRICHTON A CALL WHEN I GET BACK.

WHIIIP

WHAT IN THE--?

EUUMF

GET CLEAR! NOW! THIS ISN'T YOUR FIGHT!

WHAT ABOUT THEM? ARE *THEY* MY FIGHT?

WHAT ABOUT WHO--?!

OH... *THEM.*

GET THE STONE!!!

I DON'T KNOW *WHO* THEY ARE, BUT I KNOW *WHAT* THEY WANT.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

GET THAT OFF ME, YOU PATHETIC--

WHAT'S THIS NOW?!

STUPID STRANGE. HE'S PROBABLY HAVING COFFEE AND RELAXING.

IF I'M NOT ABLE TO PULL OFF THIS SPELL IN TIME, THEY'RE DEAD!

ONCE I GET RID OF THESE IDIOTS, I'LL DISPOSE OF YOU.

YEAH, *THAT'S* ENCOURAGING!

THE SKY IS OPEN!

IS THIS YOUR DOING, SPIDER-MAN?

DOES IT LOOK LIKE I HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON?!

I MAY NOT KNOW FOR SURE...BUT THIS ENERGY REMINDS ME OF DOCTOR STRANGE...

WHEN WE GET TO WHEREVER WE'RE GOING, I WILL TAKE MY TIME DISPATCHING YOU.

THANKS FOR THE POSITIVE IMAGERY.

HERE'S HOPING THIS *IS* DOC COMING IN FOR THE SAVE!

"THAT WAS ODD."

SOMETHING ENSNARED THEM BEFORE I COULD TRANSPORT THEM BACK TO THE CROSSROADS.

AND IT *WASN'T* FROM KARNILLA. BUT IF NOT HER...

"...THEN WHO SENT IT?"

IT'S WORKING! ALERT KRO!

WE'VE DONE IT. WE'VE OPENED A PORTAL TO ANOTHER DIMENSION!

NOW LET US SEE WHAT WE'VE MANAGED TO--

WHAT *ARE* THEY?!

WELL, AT LEAST WE'RE NOT BEING ATTACKED ANYMORE...

DESTROY THEM!

WHOOPS. SPOKE TOO SOON.

ONE SIDE!

WHAT SPECIMENS HAVE WE BROUGHT HERE TO...

KRO. DEVIANT.

NO... IT CAN'T BE.

THE MATRIX.

THAT STONE IN HIS HEAD...BRING IT TO ME!

IMMEDIATELY!

HERE WE GO AGAIN...

LAND fgd

YOU ARE CERTAIN OF THIS, *ZURAS?*

DOMO WAS MOST CERTAIN. I TEND TO TRUST HIM WHEN HE PROVIDES US WITH INFORMATION.

HE IS OUR HEAD TECHNOLOGIST, AFTER ALL.

WITH RESPECT, *ZURAS*, I KNOW WHO HE IS.

BUT *THE STONE?* AFTER ALL THIS TIME?

SIMPLY REAPPEARING WITH *NO WARNING?*

THINGS DON'T ALWAYS ANNOUNCE THEMSELVES, *IKARIS.*

WHERE ELSE DO SURPRISES COME FROM, AFTER ALL?

I SEE WE'RE ALL STATING THE *OBVIOUS* TODAY.

THEN LET US STATE THE *MOST OBVIOUS THING OF ALL--*

IF THE *DEVIANTS* HAVE THE STONE, WE MUST RETRIEVE IT.

WHO KNOWS WHAT DESTRUCTION THEY COULD INFLICT WITH IT IN THEIR POSSESSION?

GET THESE THINGS OFF ME.

THEY'RE STARTING TO PISS ME OFF.

OH, WELL SURE--WOULDN'T WANT THAT. I'M ALL ABOUT KEEPING YOU CALM.

HE MOVES QUICKLY, THIS ONE!

IS HE EVEN HUMAN?

THAT'S BEEN DEBATED, ACTUALLY. MIND TELLING ME WHO YOU GUYS ARE?

WE ARE *THE DEVIANTS!* AND YOU ARE OUR PREY!

PRAY? YOU GOT IT.

ZWAK

ZWAK

OUR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME.

THY KINGDOM COME.

THY WILL BE DONE.

ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.

WHERE AM I?

TELL ME QUICKLY...

...OR I'LL RIP OFF YOUR HEAD AND ASK ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS.

YOU TRULY DO NOT KNOW WHERE YOU ARE, DO YOU?

I'M NOT IN THE HABIT OF ASKING QUESTIONS I ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER TO.

HOLD YOUR ATTACK, MY DEVIANTS! THESE CREATURES MAY PROVE...

...USEFUL.

COME. LET ME SHOW YOU AROUND *LEMURIA*, THE HOME OF THE DEVIANTS.

"*LEMURIA*." ISN'T THAT AN UNDERSEA CONTINENT IN THE INDIAN OCEAN?

DO NOT BELIEVE THE RUMORS YOU HEAR, HUMAN. LEMURIA IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT YOUR MYTHS PORTRAY IT TO BE.

MOST THINGS ARE.

AND WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

OUR WEAPONS ROOM.

THIS STUFF IS AMAZING. YOU COULD DISPATCH AN ENTIRE ARMY WITH THIS ARMAMENT.

WE ARE VERY INNOVATIVE. PLUS...WE HAVE ENEMIES.

WHO COULD POSSIBLY BE YOUR ENEMIES?

THE CURSED ETERNALS.

FOLLOW ME. OUR SURVEY ROOM IS JUST AHEAD.

NEW YORK.

Goblet of Magic

A MAGIC SHOP? THAT FIGURES.

EXCUSE ME. I'M HERE TO PICK UP A--

STAY WHERE YOU ARE.

THE BLACK TALON HAS BUSINESS HERE.

THIS MAN HAS THE BOTTLE OF THE BLOOD OF MARIE LAVEAU, AND I WILL HAVE IT FOR MY SPELLS!

ZAAAAAK

UNNNNNHHHH...

WHAT A *SCHMUCK.*

SO...HI. DOCTOR STRANGE NEEDS A FRAGMENT OF A NUN STONE.

A *NORN* STONE, YOU MEAN?

YEAH, WHATEVER.

I'LL GET IT FOR YOU. BE RIGHT BACK.

WELL, THAT WAS EASY.

AS YOU SEE, WE CAN SPY ON ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD WE WISH TO.

SO I CAN ASSURE YOU, THERE IS NOTHING LIKE THE TWO OF YOU ANYWHERE ON THIS PLANET.

THERE'S *NOBODY* LIKE ME *ANYWHERE.*

THAT'S FOR SURE...

*UH...*IS THAT ONE OF YOURS?

EH?

KRO! INCOMING!

AN ETERNALS VESSEL! ABOUT THREE MILES AWAY!

LET'S MAKE SURE IT DOESN'T GET ANY CLOSER.

FIRE!

SHUUUFFF

YOU'RE JUST GONNA *BLOW 'EM OUT OF THE WATER?!*

WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING WHY THEY'RE *COMING?!*

IF THEY'RE ENEMIES, WHO CARES WHY THEY'RE COMING? THEY SHOULD BE DESTROYED.

WHY ARE YOU ENDEAVORING TO REMIND ME THAT I SHOULD DESTROY YOU?

DO YOU KNOW HOW LITTLE EFFORT IT WOULD TAKE TO *TEAR YOU APART?*

OH YEAH, *THIS* ISN'T GOING WELL.

WE KNOW WHY THEY'RE COMING. THE ANSWER IS OBVIOUS.

THEY WANT *THAT.*

THIS? WHY?

YOU REALLY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THAT IS, DO YOU?

ENLIGHTEN ME.

"I ASSUME YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT A CELESTIAL IS. IT WOULD TAKE ME HOURS TO EXPLAIN WHAT WE KNOW OF THEM.

"SUFFICE TO SAY THAT THEY ARE IMMORTAL CREATURES, THE LIKES OF WHICH YOU CANNOT IMAGINE.

"WHEN THIS UNIVERSE WAS IN ITS INFANCY, THEY WERE AWARE OF THE EXISTENCE OF OTHERS AND WERE CURIOUS TO VISIT.

"SO THEY CREATED A SERIES OF GEMS, WHICH ARE NOW REFERRED TO AS THE ***NORN STONES***. THESE STONES ENABLED THE CELESTIALS TO TRAVERSE THE DIMENSIONS.

"AMONG OTHER THINGS.

"AND THEY CREATED ONE STONE TO CONTROL THE POWER OF THE OTHERS. THIS WAS REFERRED TO AS THE ***MATRIX STONE***.

"THE MATRIX STONE HAS BEEN LOST FOR EONS. LOST..."

...UNTIL NOW.

AND IT INCREASES THE STRENGTH OF WHOEVER IT BONDS WITH?

THAT IS CORRECT.

BY HOW MUCH?

I...DO NOT UNDERSTAND.

BY. HOW. MUCH?

YOU KNOW WHAT? NEVER MIND.

Oh, holy crap, he's growing.

THIS STONE IS APPARENTLY LIMITED BY THE WILL OF ITS POSSESSOR.

AND AS IT HAPPENS, *I HAVE PLENTY OF WILL.*

AH. THAT TAKES CARE OF YOUR ENEMIES.

AND ONCE I DISPOSE OF YOU AND YOUR ILK, I'LL TAKE OVER THE ENTIRETY OF THIS BASE.

BRUCE. BRUCE, YOU GOTTA TAKE CHARGE. YOU GOTTA COME BACK.

I TOLD YOU, STOP CALLING ME THAT. THE NAME IS BRIAN.

AND YOUR NAME IS MUD.

KOOOOM

KOOOOM

MY GOD... I'VE BEEN ON THE RECEIVING END OF THE HULK SLAMMING HIS HANDS TOGETHER BEFORE...

...BUT THIS IS A HUNDRED TIMES WORSE. I FEEL IT IN THE ROOTS OF MY TEETH.

OOOOFFF!!!

DEAFENED, SPIDER-MAN? THAT MUST HURT.

GOOD THING YOU WON'T HEAR YOUR DEATH DESCENDING UPON YOU.

SHWAZAAAAAK

KEERABBBBB

HE SEEMED INTENT ON HURTING YOU, MY STRANGELY CLAD FRIEND.

WHAT?

YOU WILL BE ALL RIGHT NOW.

WHAAAAT?

DID YOU TRULY THINK, KRO, THAT DISPOSING OF OUR VESSEL WOULD HINDER BEINGS THAT CAN TRANSPORT THEMSELVES OVER SHORT DISTANCES?

TO ME, MY DEVIANTS! HURRY! HUR--

STOP RIGHT THERE, KRO.

YOU ATTEMPTED TO DESTROY US. THERE MUST BE CONSEQUENCES FOR THAT.

IT WAS SIMPLY A WARNING. I KNEW YOU WOULD ESCAPE.

OH, DID YOU?

WE HAVE FOUGHT EACH OTHER FOR AGES, THENA. YOU THINK *I* DO NOT KNOW WHAT YOU ARE CAPABLE OF?

THENA! SHIELD!!!

BAKOoOOM

GOT YOU!

GOOD CATCH!

WHAT A FUN TOY!!!

A SHAME YOU KNOCKED ME INTO THEIR WEAPONS ROOM.

LET'S SEE WHAT A BLAST ON A HIGHER LEVEL DOES.

EH?

THWIIIP

BAKOOOOOM

GOOD MOVE!

WHAAAAAT?!

OH, NOW WHAT???

IT'S ANOTHER DIMENSIONAL PORTAL!

IT'S A WHAT?!

A PORTAL! BUT WE ARE NOT CREATING IT--

AW, NOT *THESE* GUYS AGAIN!

NORNS!

WHO?

THEY ARE MINIONS WHO SERVE--

IF SOMETHING IS TO BE DONE CORRECTLY...

...IT IS NECESSARY TO ATTEND TO IT *ONESELF.*

GOT IT! RIGHT HERE IN THIS--*OH GEEZ.* THAT'S CARMELLA, ISN'T IT?

KARNILLA, AND YES. THIS IS *VERY* NOT GOOD.

KARNILLA.

DO I KNOW YOU?

THAT IS... DEBATABLE.

I HAVE NO INTEREST IN DEBATES. I HAVE OTHER MATTERS TO ATTEND TO.

BLAST! PROTECT THE STONE!

ON IT!

OHHH, SPIDER-MAN'S GOING TO PAY FOR THAT.

AH. THERE IT IS.

THE MATRIX STONE.

YEAH, YOU CAN'T HAVE IT, LADY. **NO ONE** CAN SEPARATE IT FROM ME.

HOW FORTUNATE THAT I AM *NOT* "NO ONE."

AAAARRRRRRHHHHH!

NO!

WE'RE *TOO LATE!*

AT LAST! AT LAST!!!

EH? WHAT IS... HAPPENING...?

DROP THAT STONE, CREATURE!

YOU KNOW, YOU TRULY ARE A PRETTY THING.

YOU COULD BE MOST DIVERTING ENTERTAINMENT.

TRAGICALLY, I HAVE OTHER PLANS.

FAREWELL.

AFTER HER!

WAIT! *WHERE IS HULK?!*

NOW WHAT?!

THAT'S...A REALLY GOOD QUESTION.

WHERE ARE WE?

YOU ARE IN NORNHEIM, CHILDREN. THE REALM OF KARNILLA...

...WHO NOW HAS SUFFICIENT POWER TO CHALLENGE *ODIN HIMSELF* FOR DOMINANCE OF THE NINE REALMS!

WELL, THAT'S JUST SWELL.

LAND
tgd

SO. THIS IS WHAT THE FATES ASSEMBLED TO TRY AND IMPEDE ME?

A TRULY PATHETIC ARRAY OF CHALLENGERS.

A HUMAN, AN ETERNAL AND A...*THING* OF SOME SORT.

I HATE TO AGREE WITH HER, BUT I KINDA THINK SHE'S RIGHT.

I FIGHT STREET THUGS AND MAD SCIENTISTS WITH METAL ARMS.

THIS GIG IS WAAAY ABOVE MY PAY GRADE.

NOT THING! THING IS STUPID ORANGE ROCK GUY!

I'M HULK!!!

I STAND CORRECTED.

AAAA

WITCH! RELEASE YOUR HOLD ON THE MATRIX STONE...

...OR SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES!

A HEAT BLAST, I SEE. THE POWER OF A HUNDRED SUNS, HARNESSED BY YOUR EYES.

IT TICKLES.

EH?

THWIIIP

OOOOOFFF!!!

SHUT IT OFF, BLONDIE! LET'S SEE HOW SHE HANDLES A GOOD OLD BUTT WHOOPIN'!

WAM WAM WAM

HE'S *ENTHUSIASTIC*, I'LL GIVE HIM THAT.

SHE LOOKS STUNNED.

WAM

I'M DOING IT!

WAM

I'M--

WAM

--SO SCREWED.

NOW...

...YOU DIE.

UNHAND HIM!

ONE AT A TIME.

ZWAKAAAM

OOOOF!!!

WHERE DID *THAT* COME FROM?

DOCTOR STRANGE'S SANCTUM SANCTORUM.

YOU DID IT!

NOW BRING HIM BACK HERE!

I CAN'T. SHE'S BLOCKING MY EVERY ATTEMPT TO EXTRACT HIM.

SO YOU CAN'T GET HIM OUT.

AT THE MOMENT? NO.

CAN YOU SEND SOMEONE *IN?*

...

APPARENTLY, YOU DO NOT LEARN...

...AND I AM DISINCLINED TO TEACH YOU.

NO ONE HITS HULK AND GETS AWAY WITH IT!

WELL STRUCK, CREATURE!

YOU'RE NEXT!

OHHHH MAN... WORLD'S SPINNING... GOTTA...

WHOA! WHAT'S--?

FELICIA?! WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?!

DOCTOR STRANGE SENT ME! I WANTED TO HELP!

OH GEEZ. SPIDER-SENSE IS GOING NUTS. WHAT KIND OF DANGER--?

HE SENSES DANGER.

HOW CHARMING. IT PERCEIVES THAT WE POSSESS THE ULTIMATE DANGER...

...TRUTH.

WHO ARE YOU?

WE ARE THE NORNS. YOU ARE IN OUR REALM.

YOU FIGHT OUR QUEEN--OR TRY TO.

YES. NOT DOING ESPECIALLY WELL, ARE YOU, PETER?

YOU...YOU KNOW HIS NAME?

WE ARE THE NORNS-- ALL OF THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE ARE OPEN TO US. IF IT IS TO BE KNOWN, WE KNOW IT.

BOY, DO I HAVE SOME STOCK MARKET QUESTIONS FOR YOU.

THEN YOU *MUST* KNOW THAT WHATEVER THAT HORNED LADY HAS PLANNED, IT'S NOT GONNA END WELL!

THAT STONE REPRESENTS *ULTIMATE POWER.* AND ULTIMATE POWER NEVER ENDS WELL.

KARNILLA IS OUR QUEEN.

SHE PROVIDES LEADERSHIP, AND WE FOLLOW HER.

YOU'RE FOLLOWING HER RIGHT OFF A CLIFF, IS WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

THAT STONE... IT UNLEASHES THE *WORST* IN WHOEVER HAS IT. IT'LL CAUSE HER TO BUCKLE UNDER ITS POWER.

YOU UNDERESTIMATE HER POWER.

AND YOU UNDERESTIMATE THE *STONE'S* POWER. IT'LL *DESTROY* HER...

...AND SHE'LL TAKE DOWN THIS ENTIRE LAND WITH HER.

YOU SAID YOU KNEW EVERYTHING.

WHAT ABOUT THE FUTURE? CAN YOU SEE CONSUELA'S FUTURE?

UH...THAT'S KARNILLA.

SKULD...THE FUTURE IS *YOUR* REALM.

YOU'VE REMAINED SILENT SINCE KARNILLA EMBARKED ON THIS UNDERTAKING. WHAT DO YOU SEE?

DEATH.

FOR WHOM?

FOR ALL.

WE SHOULD MAKE A CALL.

KEEP AT IT, BEAST!

WE'RE WEARING HER DOWN!

HULK IS NOT BEAST! BEAST IS BLUE AND FURRY!

HULK IS HULK!

ENOUGH!

ENOUGH OF THESE GAMES!

ENOUGH OF THE TWO OF YOU!

I DO NOT NEED TO WASTE TIME WITH EITHER OF YOU.

THESE WARRIORS WILL DISPENSE WITH YOU!!!

STAY BACK, HULK! I WILL ATTEND TO THESE!

HULK WILL HANDLE THEM!

YOU TAKE *BIG WOMAN!*

I KNOW NOT WHO YOU ARE, BUT ONE THING IS CLEAR:

I MUST PUT AN *END* TO YOUR DELUSIONS OF SUPERIORITY!

DELUSIONS?

MY POWER IS SUPREME, LITTLE ONE!

YOU SPEAK OUT OF *IGNORANCE*, WOMAN!

I KNOW FAR MORE THAN YOU DO, CREATURE!

I KNOW YOU ARE NOT AS POWERFUL AS YOU IMAGINE YOURSELF TO BE.

I KNOW THAT THIS IS THE END OF YOUR FINAL BATTLE. THAT YOU ARE OUTMATCHED.

BAH! THIS IS WHAT HULK KNOWS. HULK KNOWS--

--THAT GIANT WOMAN TALKS TOO MUCH!!!

YOU LITTLE...

...INSECT!!!

WUMF

NO, SPIDER GUY IS INSECT! HE'S NOT EVEN HERE!

YOU STAND BEFORE THE SUPREME POWER OF THE UNIVERSE!

THE POWER OF *CELESTIAL BEINGS* COURSES THROUGH ME!

NONE CAN STAND UP TO ME! I SHALL RESHAPE THE UNIVERSE TO SUIT MY FANCY!

I SHALL RULE OVER ALL!

I THINK NOT.

GREETINGS, CHILD. WE HAVE NOT BEEN INTRODUCED.

I AM CALLED *ZURAS*.

INDEED. AND I CAN TELL IT IS EXHAUSTING YOU TO USE YOUR POWER IN ORDER TO MATCH MY SIZE.

AND WITH THE MATRIX STONE MY POWER IS *INFINITE*. YOURS IS NOT. YOU CANNOT DEFEAT ME YOURSELF.

TRUE. VERY TRUE.

HOWEVER...

I BROUGHT AN OLD FRIEND.

!!

ODIN!!!

HOW NICE TO SEE YOU REMEMBER ME, KARNILLA. FOR IT SEEMS YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN *YOURSELF.*

YOU ARE NOT SOME SUPREME POWER, SOME CELESTIAL FORCE.

YOU ARE BUT THE NORN QUEEN.

AND YOU HAVE *OVERSTEPPED* YOUR BOUNDS.

NO!!

YES.

HAH!

RAAAAARR!

WAAAM

THE POWER IN THIS STONE IS TOO FEARSOME TO BE ALLOWED TO EXIST.

CAN YOU DISPOSE OF IT?

EASILY.

HOW...HOW DID YOU KNOW OF MY PLAN? KNOW TO ATTACK ME BEFORE I COULD SOLIDIFY MY POWER?

WE WERE INFORMED.

BY WHOM?

BY US.

WELL, BY YOUR *NORNS*. AT OUR SUGGESTION.

THE... NORNS...*TURNED* ON ME?

BUT... I AM THEIR QUEEN... I...

WOMAN IS... CRYING?

HULK HATES CRYING!!!

WHAT THE--

IS THAT... *TYPICAL* AROUND HERE?

AND WHO WAS THAT BLACK-CLAD WOMAN? WHERE DID SHE COME FROM?

NO CLUE.

"ALL-KNOWING," EH?

OH, SHUT UP.

--HECK?

WE'RE BACK!

DOC! YOU DID IT!

IT TOOK A WHILE FOR YOU TO WIND UP IN A DIMENSION SUFFICIENTLY CLOSE TO OUR OWN, BUT YES, IT'S DONE.

AND THE HULK? WHERE'S THE HULK?!

"I HAVE RESTORED HIM TO HIS PLACE AT THE DIMENSIONAL CROSSING. IDEALLY, LIKE ORIGINALLY PLANNED, HE WILL LIVE OUT THE REST OF HIS DAYS THERE."

I ONLY SAW BITS AND PIECES OF WHAT YOU WERE GOING THROUGH, SPIDER! THINGS KEPT CUTTING OUT. TELL ME EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED.

TRUST ME, CAT...

YOU REALLY DON'T WANNA KNOW.

END.

#1 HEADSHOT VARIANT BY
TODD NAUCK & RACHELLE ROSENBERG

#1 VARIANT BY
ERNANDA SOUZA

#1 VARIANT BY
MIKE DEL MUNDO

#2 VARIANT BY
DAVID BALDEÓN

#3 VARIANT BY
GERALD PAREL

#4 VARIANT BY
PEACH MOMOKO

#5 VARIANT BY
PHILIP TAN &
SEBASTIAN CHENG

"For anyone that read Spidey in the '80s, check this out — you're gonna love it. For everyone else, check this out — you're gonna love it." — Comic Watch

PETER DAVID AND GREG LAND

DO THE TIME WARP AGAIN!

BRACE YOURSELF FOR ANOTHER TRIP BACK TO THE TIME WHEN SPIDER-MAN UNKNOWINGLY WORE AN ALIEN SYMBIOTE AS HIS COSTUME!
But this all-new blast from the past will take Spidey down the road less traveled – and into the supremely psychedelic Crossroads Dimension! And for those of you who know your Marvel history, that means that Peter Parker and his alien costume are on a collision course with none other than the mindless, rampaging Hulk! Meanwhile, with Spidey missing, the Black Cat enlists the aid of the Sorcerer Supreme! And...is that a certain big, red dinosaur?! It's an unrevealed tale from Peter's symbiotic past, told in the modern Marvel manner you know and love!

COLLECTING ***SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN: CROSSROADS #1-5*** –
BY PETER DAVID, GREG LAND, JAY LEISTEN AND FRANK D'ARMATA.

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MARVEL